

CLAIMS LISTING

The following claims listing replaces all previous versions of the claims.

1-16 (Canceled)

17. (Original) A method of determining MSI status of a tumor, comprising determining in said tumor the number of adenosine (A) nucleotides in a poly(A) tract of a RIZ nucleic acid molecule in said tumor, wherein an abnormal number of adenosine nucleotides in said RIZ poly(A) tract indicates that the tumor is MSI-positive.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein said poly(A) tract is a RIZ (A)₈ tract.

19. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein said poly(A) tract is a RIZ (A)₉ tract.

20. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein said abnormal number of adenosine residues is an increased number.

21. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein said abnormal number of adenosine residues is a decreased number.

22. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein said tumor is selected from the group consisting of a colorectal tumor, a gastric tumor and an endometrial tumor.

23. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein said tumor is a hereditary nonpolyposis colon carcinoma.